President Barack Obama 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20500
Door Brasidant Barask Ohama

Dear President Barack Obama,

Imagine living in a City where nearly everyday someone is shot and killed. Imagine an entire generation of young people being the primary victims of those murders. This is not imaginary for me. It is my daily reality. In 2012, there were 386 homicides in Detroit and 333 were gun related.

____. I am a _____ year old resident of the City of Detroit. I am also a member of the Detroit City Council Youth Violence Prevention Task Force (YVPTF). The task force seeks to reduce youth violence by providing positive alternatives for young Detroiters. Many YVPTF members have lost friends and loved ones to gun violence.

As you know, gun violence is not unique to Detroit. It happens everyday in cities across this nation. Sometimes the tragedy involves one or two children. Sometimes the tragedy, such as in New Town, will snatch the lives of dozens of innocent children at once. Every child's life is precious. Something must be done.

We are fed up with losing our brothers, sisters and schoolmates to gun violence. That is why we have decided to write in support of your proposed Gun Control Plan. Other than education, there is not one single issue more important to young people across this nation. And we cannot be properly educated if we are not safe.

I support background checks for all gun sales. I support a ban on assault weapons. I support raising awareness on common-sense gun safety measures. Most importantly, I support the decrease in gun related tragedies that is sure to follow the reform of our gun laws.

As a resident of a City that has lost far too many people as a result of gun violence, I implore my representatives in the United States Congress to support your plan. I have copied them on this letter. I have also enclosed a personal story of a loved one that I have lost to violence. I ask that you let their story serve as continued motivation to push for gun reform and that all members of Congress please remember their story as they consider gun control reform.

Sincerely,

cc:

Sen. Carl Levin, United States Senate

Sen. Debbie Stabenow, United States Senate

Rep. John Convers, United States House of Representatives

Rep. Gary Peters, United States House of Representatives

How Gun Violence Has Affected Me